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END OF TRANSITIONAL PERIOD APPROACHES

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FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON BORDERS DISPUTES WITH IRAN

A Spokesman of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry issued a statement on the 16th of December to the correspondent of the official Iraqi News Agency, commenting on the statements of Iran's Foreign Minister in Iranian Parliament on the 11th of December.

The Spokesman pointed out that the borders disputes between Iraq and Iran go back to 1847 when a protocol between the Ottoman State and Iran was signed. Another protocol was concluded in 1913 between representatives of the two mentioned states and resulted with appointing a committee for delineating the borders. The decisions of that committee were regarded by the protocol as final. The Spokesman added, "We must also mention that the Ottoman state surrendered the Port of Mohammara (Khoramshahr) which is part of Iraq, due to its desire to settle the dispute". The statement went on to say that this committee delineated the borders regarding Shatt el-Arab very clearly in 1914, but in spite of that "The Iranian Government continued not paying any attention to these delineations" and "did not suffice with her trespassings upon the land boundaries but also strove through all means and ways to join Iraq in the ownership of Shatt el-Arab, and from here emerged the proposals by the Iranian side and the Iraqi side for the conclusion of an agreement for navigation in Shatt el-Arab". But all efforts failed due to Iran's insistence to regard the entirety of Shatt el-Arab as a common property, the statement added. The situation continued like that until Iraq conceded 4 miles in the direction of Shatt el-Arab and signed a protocol with Iran. The Spokesman revealed that Iran continued to violate the signed treaties and even "claimed the right of sovereignty over Shatt el-Arab".

The Spokesman added that Iran declared on May 1959 that it regarded Khirso Abad as a sea port belonging to Iran. The Iraqi Government objected since the waters of this port are Iraqi territory and subject to Iraq's sovereignty only.

The spokesman went on to say that Iran violated Iraq's territory near Amara country, in the South of Iraq. It had also violated seven Iraqi frontier posts and penetrated into Iraqi territory as deep as seven miles in some cases.

The Spokesman disclosed that there was an agreement concerning the border rivers, especially al-Wand river, but Iran has "recently cut a small canal from Qasr Shirin to Khirso on the borders near Khanaqin to turn all the waters of al-Wand river from which Khanaqin soil is irrigated to her land". The Ministry spokesman pointed out that Iran, while doing these things with Iraq, she does not "suffice with her share from the river on her borders with Afghanistan but wants additional share. This reflects the selfishness of the policy of Iran with her neighbours".

The Spokesman pointed out that Iran since 1937 up to now violated all the rules of navigation in Shatt el-Arab and refused to pay fees — which are paid even by Iraqi ships —, refused to give a notice that their ships were passing, refused to

take Iraqi guides, refused to take orders from the Port authorities. The spokesman pointed out that the fees which accumulated on Iran since 1953 have amounted to ID. 23,377. The point is not confined to the payment of fees, but extends beyond it to more serious matters namely that the Iranian ships violate the instructions of the Port which necessitate censorship on the ships, information about their movements, giving notice about themselves, presentation of the necessary documents and obedience to sanitary censorship. Thus by these violations they constitute a danger not only on their own safety but also on the movement of all ships which enter the port and leave it".

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The spokesman pointed out although Iraq has been silent about Iraq's provocations, but that did not mean that Iran was right. Iraq wanted the problem to be solved through peaceful means, the spokesman asserted.

Premier Calls for Formation of Palestinian State

For the first time since his recovery and release from hospital, Premier Kassim attended on the 15th of December the first Medical Congress which was jointly organised by the Medical Society and the Union of Medical Profession.

In his inauguration speech, the Premier referred to the imperialist designs against Iraq. The Premier said "Imperialism and those who covet our country and the resources of our country and those who caused misery to the people of the country have directed their efforts to destroy the structure of this country", and wanted chaos and anarchy to prevail the country.

The Premier reminded the people that "after we have carried through this revolution and destroyed the bastions of imperialism in this country, we do not expect the imperialists to leave us alone. We do not expect to march on an easy and paved ground. Independence needs sacrifices. We have decided to fight for the sake of the independence of the country and to rely on ourselves".

The Premier then referred to Palestine and pointed out that since the resolutions of the United Nations were taken regarding Palestine, there was nothing done about this important issue. The Premier stated that Palestine "was assaulted by three gangs and states. Palestine was assaulted by the Israelis who usurped a big part of the fatherland and are still corrupting it. Palestine was also assaulted by Trans-Jordan who satched the usurped part and incorporated it to their Kingdom and called it the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Egypt also assaulted Palestine at the time of (ex) king Farouk and snatched another part of Western Palestine and incorporated it to Egypt at that time and to the UAR at the present".

The Premier asserted that there could be no solution to regain Palestine and liberate it from the usurpers "unless an Arab Government from the people of Palestine is formed embracing all the usurped parts and ruled by the people of Palestine".

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VICTORY FOR DEMOCRACY

Students at the Poll:

Early in the morning of Thursday the 26th of November 1959, hundreds of students hurried to the colleges and schools to cast their votes. Most of the colleges were decorated for the occasion with banners and slogans affirming the determination of the students to defend the republic, to secure the democracy of education and to spread education throughout the country.

Streets and Cafe houses were crowded with people shortly after the beginning of the poll. This election which is the second since the 14th July 1958, is witnessed and observed by the whole mass of the people students or otherwise.

This is not an accidental matter. The students played an honourable role in the previous revolts and uprisings of the Iraqi people, so they have done on the 14th July and ever since. They are a militant section of the masses, and were always affected by the political changes of the country.

The election which is now held under particular conditions are commented upon by an editorial of "Ittihad el-Shaab on the day of election by saying:

"The democratic forces are not — as they were last year — united in their actions and stands. This is the prominent matter of the students' elections". "The democratic student movement is suffering from a split which is a continuation of the split in the national movement in general". The editorial added: "This split or division enabled the reactionary forces to challenge the General Union of Students as well as other democratic organizations".

What is the nature of the split mentioned above?

Three lists were forwarded to the students. These lists are; the United Democratic List, The Independent List, and the Students Front List. The Democratic is the list supported by the mass of the students as the results later proved. It was reported that the independents were divided to three sections:

(a) those misled and taken over to support the Student List.

(b) some are working actively on the side of the United Democratic

List, which includes students of more than one political believe besides its representing the majority of the independent students.

(c) few others backing the Independent List which is the list of one political section that is the national democratic students.

The Students Front List is in fact a "united list" of all those opposing the republic, its democratic march and the leadership of Premier Abdul Karim Kassim.

Ittihad el-Shaab greeting the students on the success they have gained commented on Friday the 27th November by saying:

"The Democratic List was able to rally around it all the students aiming at defending the republic and its patriotic leadership represented in the person of the Premier. It enjoyed the support of wide sections of the students, despite the difficult conditions, and at a time when certain circles preferred to give up the stand of unity of the national forces in combating reaction. That is when some students preferred to take an "independent" stand, a stand which did not help the democratic movement to bar the road in face of the reactionary imperialist bloc".

On studying the results of the election one is inclined to think that the actual votes of the "Independent List" did not in fact worth the trouble the "Democratic List" have taken to unite their efforts. (The percentage of the votes in the colleges and High institutions in the whole country were the followings: The Democratic List 74.77% with being equal in the remaining percentage).

But the fact is that had the independent list unified its efforts with the democratic list, with which there were no basic difference neither in the programme of election nor in the aims of the nominees themselves after election, more numbers of wavering students would have voted to the democratic list. This is an established fact since some students voted for the Front list without realising that they have voted against their own interests.

The efforts to unite in one list, on the part of the democratic students was highly appreciated by the people. The experience of the law-

yers elections are still fresh in the minds of the people, and further intensified by the stands the union followed since the election; stands counter to the republic and the will of the mass of the layers. The election of the students was more than just students elections. Iraq lived a day not very unlike to a general election day. The officials of the education Ministry all over Iraq played their part in securing the democracy and full liberty of the voters, representatives of the nominated students were present and also governmental representatives at every polling centre.

The struggle was between the forces of the republic and the enemies of it. It was a test to the democratic forces in the young republic. Many provocations were planned prior to election day with mobilisation of the forces of the reaction. Individual students were transferred from one school to another so that a closed school will be guaranteed to their favour. When despite this the plan failed in some schools open attacks on the democratic nominees were followed, as in the case of A'adamiyah Secondary School. Here one democratic student wanted to nominate for election, but he was beaten by the so called 'Nationalist', and prevented from attending the school. Similar cases took place in few other school which they considered to be their closed area of influence.

Nevertheless, the broadcasts and television soon conveyed to the people the first news of the success of the Democratic List ... the success of the democratic forces over those of reaction. People were rejoicing this success, as they were confident that they will not let them down. The students, being an inseparable part of the national movement in all newly independent, colonial or semi-colonial countries, did play their role in the Iraqi republic too. Their whole being, their education and the ideals they will work for, on graduation, are all one and the same part of the national independence, democracy and peace.

Baghdad, Basrah, Diwanayah, Amara, Arbil and Nasiriya were unanimously for the Democratic List, while Kirkuk, Mosul and other

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EVENTS OF THE WEEK

1. Women and Peace Week:

A "Women and Peace" week, sponsored by the League for the Defence of Women's Rights was inaugurated on Sunday 20th of December. The week was commenced by the Minister of Municipalities Dr. Naziha al-Dulaimi who delivered a lecture on "woman and her role in safeguarding peace". The lecture emphasised the particular interest of woman in peace since the mother alone "can appreciate the value of the child since his birth and exerts all efforts to bring him up". The minister stressed on the campaigns that can be launched by women for the backing of the cause of world peace.

The meeting also unanimously approved a cable to be sent to the United Nations denouncing the intention of France to carry her atomic tests in the Algerian Sahara which would mean "devastation for the fraternal Algerian people and all the peoples of Africa". The cable demanded that this test should be halted.

2. Iraqi Federation of Trade Unions Accepted in WFTU.

The present session of the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Trade Unions which is being held in Bucharest unanimously accepted the affiliation of the Iraqi Federation of Trade Unions.

This decision was welcomed by the Iraqi Workers as was expressed by the statements of the secretary general of the Federation, Abdul Qadir Ayash, in commenting on this decision. Ayash said that the decision of the WFTU came "in response with the aspirations of the Iraqi workers who wanted to be an active member of this big family that embraces 95 million trade unionists from various parts of the world and who fight for the unity of world trade unionist movement in its consistent struggle for peace, national independence and better working conditions".

Ayash recalled the sincere and disinterested assistance rendered by the WFTU to the Iraqi Trade Unionist movement since 1945 despite the fact that Iraqi trade unions were not members of the WFTU at that time. He concluded that this affiliation will provide us with the chance to communicate the "voice

of our working class to the international fields and to demonstrate the free face of our liberated republic and its patriotic leadership".

Iraqi — GDR Cultural Pact:

The Cultural Agreement concluded between the Iraqi Republic and the German Democratic Republic last May was ratified at the Foreign Ministry on December the 8th. The documents of ratification were signed by the Foreign Minister on behalf of Iraq and by Mr. Hochmut, the GDR Commercial Representative, on behalf of his government. After the exchange of documents Mr. Hochmut spoke about the important role played by the exchange of delegations, students, tourists and experts and by exhibitions and films in cementing the bonds of friendship between the German and the Iraqi peoples. Mr. Hochmut then referred to the Iraqi Exhibition in Berlin and in conclusion said that the aim of the GDR government was to strengthen the relations between the Iraqi and the German Democratic Republics. In reply the Foreign Minister emphasised the policy of neutrality and co-operation with all nations pursued by the Iraqi Republic and concluded by stressing that the agreement was only the starting point in the co-operation between the two countries in the future.

Surveyors Congress:

The first Congress of the Surveyors' Association was opened on December 4th under the slogan of the Agrarian Reform and Safeguarding the Republic. The congress was opened by the Minister of the Agrarian Reform, Dr. Kubba who said that the Agrarian Reform was the most important guarantee of safeguarding the republic; for apart from affecting the majority of the Iraqi people, it defines the extension of the revolution to the rural areas and determines its social democratic nature; it is for this reason, the Minister added that the enemies are prompted to use the most vile means in order to hamper the Agrarian Reform. The Minister then said that the Association can therefore play a great role in safeguarding the republic through helping in the survey and distribution

of land. After the opening speech, the various greeting messages from democratic and professional organisations were read; this was followed by the speech of the Preparatory Body of the Association; the speech stressed the importance of organisation for the people referred to the work of the members in co-operation with the Agrarian Reform Authorities and finally pledged that the association will do its best for the development and safeguarding of the republic under the leadership of Abdul Karim Kassim.

The congress took many resolutions concerning the organisation and development of the survey of land for the Agrarian Reform. The congress also sent a message of greeting to the Leader on the occasion of his leaving the hospital and pledged themselves to remain loyal soldiers for safeguarding the republic and the achievements of the revolution.

Greeting to the Afro-Asian Peoples

The General Secretary of the Iraqi Partisans of Peace, Sayid Aziz Sharif sent a message of greeting to the Afro-Asian Peoples, struggling for their liberation and for a happy and peaceful World, on the occasion of Afro-Asian Solidarity Day on December 2nd. In his message, the General Secretary of the Partisans of Peace, referred to the pledge of solidarity of the Afro-Asian Peoples in their first Congress held more than a year ago. Sayid Sharif then referred to the active participation of the Iraqi people in that congress despite the old Iraqi government oppressive measures and then went on to mention the adoption of the present patriotic government of Iraq to the resolutions of that congress particularly those concerning solidarity, co-operation and peaceful co-existence among the various nations.

In conclusion Sayid Sharif said that the Iraqi people, who have combined their struggle for peace with their struggle against imperialism and the old regime, will continue to co-operate with every nation aspiring for independence, freedom and peace side by side with their struggle for safeguarding their republic against conspiracies.

EDITORIALS OF THE WEEK

The provocative course of the Iranian Rulers is an indivisible part of the imperialist reactionary scheme against our republic 17-12-1959

Premier Kassim referred in his recent press conference to the subject of the Iraqi — Iranian relations. He expressed his keenness to maintain these relations on foundations of friendliness and good-neighbourhood in spite of Iraq's withdrawal from the Baghdad Pact. Then he dealt with the borders issue

between the two countries and particularly with regards Shatt al-Arab and expressed the desire of the Iraqi government to solve the current problems about this issue through normal diplomatic channels.

In fact these statements were not hostile, nor were they "the beginning of a campaign against Iran", as some of the imperialist and reactionary quarters tried to interpret them. In fact those statements came as a reply to nervous statements given by the Shah of

Iran on the 29th of Nov. last, in which he claimed that Iraq had violated its agreements regarding Shatt al-Arab, and that Iraq has no right to claim this River as exclusive property. He went even further than that to describe the policy of Iraq as "imperialist".

At time when the Iranian rulers should have — if they really are keen on good relations between the two countries — taken benefits from the emphasis of the Premier on the peaceful means to arrive at a satisfactory solution for this issue, they have instead used the statement as an occasion for launching more attacks on Iraq's foreign policy in a tone of overt threatening.

The Iranian foreign minister delivered, few days ago, a speech in the Iranian Parliament in which he distorted the statements of Premier Kassim and attributed to him statements which have no foundation of truth. He attacked the Premier's statements and announced that "the Imperial Iranian government will preserve all her rights in Shatt al-Arab ... and will take all the measures which it deems necessary to maintain her rights".

And thus a feverish and artificial outcry was launched in the Parliament and official press and radios full of threats and provocations on the Iraqi Republic.

It is well known that the Treaty of Arzurum in 1847 between the Ottoman government (who had suzerainty over Iraq at that time) and the Iranian government had delineated in a clear and decisive manner the borders between Iraq and Iran. According to that treaty, Shatt al-Arab was regarded as part of Iraq's territory. This delineation was confirmed later on in the treaty of fixing the boundaries between the territories of Iran and Iraq which was ratified in Astana in 1913, and in the protocol annexed to that treaty. Iran was also a side in these agreements.

Yet the Iranian government resorted later on — when Iraq separated from the Ottoman government, to withdraw its recognition of this delineation. As a result of that some problems arose between the two countries which impelled Iraq in 1935 to submit a complaint to the League

Soviet Experts Leave

A number of Soviet Experts working at the Dora Refinery left this week for the Soviet Union; twelve other Soviet experts will leave during the next two months. These Soviet Experts, who worked as advisors for the Iraqi Engineers at the Refinery, have returned to the Soviet Union after sensing the ability of the Iraqi Engineers and workers to take the responsibility of working and safeguarding the equipments in the Refinery. After the return of the twelve experts, the refinery, which employed 150 American experts in the past, will only have eight Soviet experts.

Economists Election:

The results of the election held on Dec. 11th, for the Administrative Committee of the Iraqi Economists' Society, showed a big success for the candidates of the Democratic List. The Unified Democratic List, which embraced all those concerned about consolidating the republican regime and about the triumph of its democratic course, and which adopted the general social and special vocational aims of the economists, won 68% of the total votes. The only other list contesting the election was the "Unified Vocational" list. According to official sources, voting took place in a completely democratic atmosphere under the supervision of the authorities and the help of the old Administrative Committee which provided every opportunity to secure the freedom of the election campaign and of the voting. Before the election, the General Body of the Society sent a greeting to the Premier approved the proposal of the old Administrative Committee to grant honorary membership to Sayid M. Hadid, the Minister of Finance, Dr. T. al-Shaibani, the Minister of Planning and to Dr. I. Kubba, the Minister of Agrarian Reform.

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Iraqi Ambassador to Czechoslovakia

The first Iraqi Ambassador to the Czechoslovakian Popular Republic, Sayid Faik, left Baghdad on December 12th; Sayid Faik is also expected to represent Iraq in Poland, Rumania and Hungary. Before leaving, the Ambassador, expressed his pleasure to be the first Ambassador of the Republic in a modern, friendly and peace-loving country. Sayid Faik then added that he will be conveying the Iraqi people's and the Premier's greetings to the Czechoslovakian people and will help in the implementation of the various agreements based on mutual benefits and concluded between the Iraqi and Czechoslovakian Popular Republics and in strengthening the bonds between the two countries.

Permanent Joint Bureau for Arbitration

A Permanent Joint Bureau, composed of four representatives from the General Federation of Trade Unions and four from the Federation of Industries, is to be formed soon in order to settle disputes between workers and employers. This was decided after talks concluded between representatives of the Federations. The Bureau will be empowered to look into all disputes arising in industry between the workers and employers in a spirit of deep assessment of the responsibility of both sides in production in consolidating and developing the national economy under the republican regime.

gue of Nations. In 1937, during the second period of Hikmat Sulaiman's government in Iraq, a new treaty was concluded on the issue which came in accord with the spirit of the reactionary Saad Abad Pact which was encouraged and blessed by imperialism at the time and which was directed simultaneously against national liberation movement in the middle east and the Soviet Union. In accordance with this new treaty a strip of five filometres from Shatt al-Arab were officially conceded to Iran and the sovereignty over Shatt al-Arab became joint between the two countries. The Iranian ships were permitted to navigate through it and embark in its waters. In addition to that, this agreement granted the right for Iran to enable the foreign ships, including the military vessels, to enter Shatt al-Arab and embark in it without the official consent of Iraq.

Where, then, are the "imperialist intentions", contrasted with these explicit facts?

However, this issue and other boundary issues can be solved through normal diplomatic channels. What, then, is the justification for the official Iranian quarters to launch this campaign at this time in particular and with this amount of outcry and clamour?

In fact, "there are many things behind the masks". The question is not isolated from the entirety of events which are taking place in this part of the world ever since the birth of the democratic Iraqi Republic. It ought to be viewed together with the other hostile actions of the Iranian rulers, such as changing the course of the Wand river thereby depriving thousands of peasants in Mendlil and Khanaqin of the water to irrigate their lands, the restrictions it imposed on the Iraqi shepherds who want to breed their cattle on the borders; the instigation of the chiefs of tribes in Kurdistan as well as the South to make provocations, send infiltrators, the smuggling of arms into our country as well as the press and radio campaigns which never ceased against our democratic republican system ever since the dawn of the immortal 14th July.

This question should also be linked with the fact of Iran's membership in the aggressive Cento and her

active participation in that bloc and all its endeavours of conspiring against the Iraqi people and Republic, particularly after the convocation of the conference of "the heads" of the Eastern states in that pact which discussed mainly and basically, "the situation in Iraq", according to the official statements about that conference. That conference was preceded, accompanied and followed by various aspects of feverish activity such as the erection of rocket bases and sites in Turkey, the intensification of strategic links among Turkey, Iran and Pakistan, the carrying out of the military maneuvers in Air and sea under the American command, the recent visit of Eisenhower to these three countries and his talks with the heads of these governments about the reinforcement of the Central Treaty Organisation and about the "differences" among some "peoples" of the Middle East as well as the "problems of the Middle East" in general!

And last, but not least, this issue should also be linked with the enthusiasm of the Cairo and Damascus radios in "defending" the point of view of Iran and in inventing the news about Iraqi "aggression" on Iran. All these are used as a new element in the campaign of feverish barking of those radios in the incitement against our republic and the instigation of the lowest and worst elements of evil and treason in the Arab countries and our own country to commit the basest acts of treachery, subversion and destruction against the Leader of the country, the sincere patriotic and democratic forces as well as the rise of the "campaign of whispering" once again among the suspicious quarters inside our country about a "new date" and a "new revenge".

We have already repeatedly said that the member states of Cento with U.S. imperialism behind them were and will continue to be the main power in all the conspiracies against our republic and on the entirety of the national liberation movement in the Middle East. We have also said that the failure with which all the conspiracies of these imperialist forces have met thanks to the mighty international support and the unity of the patriotic forces at home, has doubled the ferocity and fury of these forces and driven them to search for new methods for

plotting and aggression.

Here is the development of events revealing the aspects of these "new methods". It seems that the Iranian rulers want to be the ones "who hang the bell" this time by imposing an artificial battle against us in order to strike our republic and sabotage the gains of our revolution.

But the solidarity of all the patriotic forces and their rallying around the loyal leadership will once again foil this vile conspiracy and make it, like all its predecessors, a tragedy for its engineers. Our republic enjoys in this respect the support and sympathy of all the forces of peace and freedom in the world.

The unification of the mass activity is an important factor for the unification of the national movement and for safeguarding the republic

18-12-1959

At this circumstance when the enemies of our republic the imperialists, the covetous, the feudalists and the agents are getting ferocious and sending threats and intimidations from Cairo, Damascus, Amman, London, Teheran and also from the heart of Iraq, at this very time the necessity is getting more pressing for the unification and closing of the national ranks, for consolidating their solidarity with the authority and its patriotic leadership and the unification of the ranks of all the enemies of imperialism, feudalism and the covetous, all those who oppose the restoration of the rule of the agents and the hirelings to Iraq. The question of safeguarding the republic, consolidating its structure and protecting and developing its accomplishments are the duty, and in the interest, of all the sectors of the national movement. Moreover, the ability of safeguarding the republic is above the ability of any sector alone. On the other hand it is not a difficult task if it was shouldered by the entirety of the patriotic forces who are linked in fraternity with their ranks united and acting as one bloc.

These facts have become, in our opinion, obvious and need no explanation or interpretation. But in spite of that the ranks of the national movement are still suffering from disruption and too much differences. There are still some who do

not show more positivity to contribute practically to the reduction of these differences and the restoration of the unity of the national movement, or at least the accomplishment of harmony in the stands in order to isolate the enemies of the republic and the enemies of its democratic course and to paralyse their subversive activity.

There are two ways for the accomplishment of that. Each of them acts and reacts with the other, and the achievement of each helps the achievement of the other and each of them supplements the other. That is the path of direct unity between the sectors of the national movement and the path of the unity of the mass activity, the unity of their democratic, social and professional organisations and activities. If the integrated unity of the entirety of the national movement in both its forms or facets is the ambition of all those who are loyal to the people and the fatherland and which should be accomplished by relentless and unflinching work, then it is the duty to patch up this breach or that, to unite this activity or that, to participate in a united electoral list in this field or the other, the march side by side in this festival or that procession. It is necessary and the duty of everyone to show keenness for that in order to pave the way for restricting the breach of difference and to bring closer together the stands of the different sectors.

Had that patriotic quarter who did not participate in the united democratic list for the elections of the Students Union shown more positivity and participated in that list with the rest of sections of the national movement, that could have helped eliminating one point of disagreement; it could have contributed to the unification of the activity of a large section of the masses and to the restriction of the breach of difference among the sectors of the national movement, and it would have struck a stronger blow to the reactionary grouping which is hostile to the democratic students movement and to the Republic.

Had some patriots showed more positivity and more sense of responsibility and accepted the principle of uniting the efforts in the elections of the Lawyers Association, it could have been possible to bar the way on an executive committee which is fiercely anti-democratic and the

majority of whose members — until now — together with their registrar are under arrest waiting to be tried by the People's Court under the charge of taking part in the plotting on the life of Premier Kassim and on the Republic.

The patriotic quarter who did not take part in the procession of rejoicing which was organised by the masses of Baghdad from various social classes and organisations, had it shown more positivity and taken part with the people in their procession, it could have been a brotherly meeting that greatly contributes to the reconciliation among the patriots and it would have been a more powerful slap to the enemies the lurking conspirators.

Had those who called for the peasants demonstration today discussed the question with the rest of sectors of the national movement for laying down a joint plan for a joint all — embracing peoples procession or for a broader and more embracing peasantry procession, that would have furnished genuine expression to the will of the peasants and would have struck a powerful blow to feudalism and the enemies of Agrarian Reform and all the enemies of the Republic. It could have seriously contributed to the reconciliation of the peasants ranks and their unity and consequently a reconciliation among all the sectors of the national movement in general.

We shall continue extending our hands to shake hands strongly and warmly with all sectors of the national movement for the unification of the activity against the enemies and for the defence and safeguarding of the Republic and its progress, in every action, on every occasion and in every field.

We are aware of the erroneousness of any individual action or sectarian stand. We are aware that this action or stand will not gain — at the end — any profit for its sponsors because the sincere patriotic groups cannot accomplish their genuine interests except through the united and common action. But we are confident that the outcome of such negative stands will convince sincere patriotic quarters — through their own experience — in the erroneousness and harm of such stands.

Let the perils which menace our fatherland and which are designed

by the imperialists and the covetous abroad and by the conspiring reactionary grouping at home be the stimulus for more sense of responsibility for the unity of action to defend the Republic and its accomplishments.

For the Sake of New Legislations that Correspond with the Spirit of the Revolution

20-12-1959

After few days from now the transitional period will end on the day which was fixed by Premier Kassim, the Army Day on 6th of January next. With the end of this period our republic will receive a new era in political life which aspects will be set by the permanent constitution, the licensing of patriotic political parties and the preparation for the beginning of the parliamentary life and the establishment of other democratic institutions.

This new era, which will follow the transitional period is regarded a new experiment in the life of our people who were deprived, before the revolution, of exercising the most elementary of the democratic rights. The new legislations which will be legislated, will be new in their contents and purposes, in contrast to what we have known in the past.

The "democratic liberalational" nature of the 14th July Revolution makes us assert that the new laws which will be approved will not only affect the life of one social class or stratum without the others; it will directly and deeply influence the life of all the sons of the people and its effects will run for a long period of time.

These facts make the task of deciding the contents and aims of those laws of great significance which calls for more exactness and more far-reaching and embracing view to the question.

Undoubtedly, the best way to legislate such important laws such as the constitution, the law of associations and parties and others, and the best guarantee to make them democratic and expressive to the will and ambitions of our people and to be responsive with the nature and aims of the Revolution is to ensure their discussion and approval through democratic means. The means to achieve that is for the authority to seek the assistance of the experi-

ences and opinions of the representatives of the patriotic forces through committees which should be composed of representatives of the authority in addition to the representatives of the patriotic and popular organisations and quarters to decide the basis and principles of these laws. Before the completion of the final stages of legislations, they should be presented for public opinion to discuss, criticise and crystallise them.

As far as the permanent constitution is concerned, it is necessary to be approved by a broad national body or by an elected Constituent Assembly that expresses the real will of the people from various patriotic forces and various nationalities and political tendencies — as was the case with the Indian constitution and many other modern constitutions.

The unprincipled differences which actually exist among the sectors of the national movement that have not yet been overcome and the principled differences which spring from the difference of interests expressed by each sector of the national movement, must not prevent a reconciliation among these sectors and their cooperation with the authority to decide and lay down the foundations and principles of these laws because the issue, as we have already said, does not confine its effects and results on one class or stratum out of the others, it affects all the social classes.

It is noteworthy at this occasion to point out that the enemies of our republic and those who oppose the termination of the transitional period and the prevalence of normal democratic life, will not be pleased by the conclusion of this period peacefully. They will not be pleased to see our people moving towards a new era in which they enjoy their democratic rights of which they were deprived for many generations and to become more powerful in defending, safeguarding and developing the republic. Therefore these enemies will exert their efforts to obstruct the transformation into the new life. We have to expect that these enemies will endeavour through all means to accomplish their cunning aims, such as: frightening and alarming the people of the democratic life and of the ability of the people to manage such life, the distortion

of facts about the mass organisations both democratic and trade unionist as they have done several months ago. In spite of our confidence of the inability of any force to accomplish that, nevertheless, the consciousness of the patriotic forces and their unity and solidarity with the patriotic authority is the basic guarantee to spoil such anti-people's reactionary attempts.

The new life which is full of hopes and wide horizons for the interests of all the national classes of the people, require from the various sectors of the national movement and from the patriotic authority to take the initiative for joint work for new constitution and laws that correspond with the spirit of the Revolution — democratic ones express the will and ambition of the entirety of the people.

Let us intensify our vigilance and unity towards the excessive provocations of the Iranian Rulers

22-12-1959

At this time when the Iranian rulers should have taken benefit of the positive and constructive spirit which characterised the statements of Premier Kassim in his Press Conference, and which was reflected in expressing the desire of the Iraqi Government to solve the dispute of Shatt el-Arab and the rest of the borders disputes through the normal peaceful means. That has also characterised the statements of the spokesman of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry. At this time, the Iranian rulers went too far in their provocative actions and instigated the members of Iranian "Parliament" and the radio and press to step up the vile slanderous campaign against the Iraqi Republic and her peaceful and liberalisation policy.

This campaign has gone beyond all the traditional limits and the international conventions which regulate the relations among countries, leave alone relations between two neighbouring countries whose two peoples are connected by long standing historical links. It has attained the extent of undermining and encroaching on the integrity of the Iraqi Government and the laws of the Iraqi Republic as well as the falsification of the historical and geographical facts and the violation of all the legal and logical considerations. The ugliest and most stupid

of those is the allegation that Basra city is an Iranian in reality, and that the Kurdish people are Iranian by origin and so on with such kind of nonsense.

It was not expected that our Government takes the stand of surrender and submission towards this absolutely unwarranted overt hostility. That is why the statements of Premier Kassim yesterday were firm and successful. At time when Iraq is keen to solve all its problems with other countries through peaceful and legal means, nevertheless that should not be attributed to Iraq's weakness. Iraq is ready, as the Premier stated, to resist aggression by force.

Premier Kassim identified in his speech yesterday the powers which try to commit aggression on Iraq, and defined them as the imperialists, the covetous and the evil-doers and linked it with the vile conspiracy on his life.

From this it is clear that the hostile campaign of Iran against our Republic is not an isolated phenomenon, nor is it a haphazard one. It is a part of the entirety of the imperialist and reactionary plans and intrigues to subvert our republic and sabotage the gains of our Revolution. It is also a part of the endeavours of Cento which never ceased for one day ever since the foundation of our Republic, plotting on us and massing all the reactionary wicked forces inside our country and in the Arab and neighbouring countries for this purpose.

The ruling circles in the UAR are performing a disgraceful role in this respect. While the most elementary requisites of Arab solidarity and the duties of Arab brotherhood dictated upon these claimants of "Arab nationalism" to stand on the side of the Iraqi Republic against these aggressive endeavours or not to harm it in the least, nevertheless they have done the contrary. They capitalised on this chance to intensify their press and radio campaign against Iraq and to revenge from it in its critical position. They have even exploited it to invigorate their plotting endeavours against it whether outside the borders or inside. It is noteworthy in this respect to point out that even Nuri es-Said dared not publicly avenge himself by the years of imperialist conspiracies against Egypt.

The rulers of the UAR have thrown away the last bit of Arab nobility and selfless assistance, they have thrown away the last bit of the tenets which constitute the concept of Arab nationalism, thereby proving once again that they are not sincere to the movement of Arab liberation.

They have also proved that they are performing a role that fully accords with the roles of U.S. imperialism to engage the Iraqi people and Republic with battles on two fronts in addition to the internal front which is composed of the agents, the spies and subversives.

The situation at present is too critical to bear any relentness. It necessitates the utmost degrees of firmness towards the "fifth column" which still possesses much power and influence in various parts of our country and even in some of the government machinery. It necessitates the crushing of the rings of plotting and treason which are employing some resting pillars here and there and among the "groupings", and the secret "quarters" and the public ones. It necessitates on some patriotic forces to abandon their passive stands regarding the cooperation with other forces and to precisely discriminate between the hostile and the friendly forces. It necessitates that the secondary differences should not be made a reason that impedes the accomplishment of the unity around the common basic interests.

The experiences of history prove that the internal unity between the patriotic authority and the people and among the patriotic forces was the decisive factor for scoring the victory on foreign aggression, and the contrary is true, for the lack of this unity is the most important reason for the loss of freedom and the victory of imperialist offense. The experiences of our Revolution during the past four conspiracies were no exception to that. We have strong confidence that the objective of safeguarding the republic will impose on all those loyal to our Republic to rise up to the level of events.

The Iraqi people who proved the originality of their consciousness are worthy of exercising all their Democratic Liberties

23-12-1959

Only few days remained from the transitional period. All citizens

are looking forward towards the new period, the period of commencing the declaration of the democratic legislations that ensure the rise of the conditions for the new period.

Naturally if the permanent constitution and the other legislations ensured the democratic rights of the people and laid down the new foundations upon which the Republic will embark under its new conditions, that will help in providing the guarantees for stability and tranquility and the creation of the best relations of solidarity with the patriotic authority.

It is also natural, that the new period will start with the declaration of the freedom for political organisation on the basis of the foundation of political parties after the people had exercised some of their organisational freedoms in other fields and after it has been clearly manifested what role can the democratic liberties play in mobilising the people and their patriotic forces in the joint action for the consolidation of the pillars of the Republic and the safeguarding of its gains.

The political freedom is not alien to the people or their awareness. The people have employed various means of struggle in order to realise their democratic liberties. The people's insistence to exercise these liberties was a feature which characterised the people with vitality, valiance and boldness. Under the old regime, the people offered sacrifices in order to win freedom and to score victory over the enemies of democracy till they developed a special sensitivity that developed and grew amidst the flames of the revolutionary struggle against the rulers of the extinct regime, the enemies of democracy.

During the periods which the people imposed their enjoyment to their political liberties, they proved their worthiness for that and gave brilliant examples that amazed the enemies.

On the morrow of the victory of the July Revolution, the people set a brilliant example in responding with the patriotic authority and in devoting their efforts to accomplish the conditions of stability so as to enable the patriotic government consolidate the victory.

When the people exercised some of their democratic liberties in the fields of democratic mass activity,

they set the same examples. Demonstrations, public meetings and vast processions were organised without anything taking place which does not confirm the peoples realisation to their tasks. Elections for the numerous democratic organisations were held such as the trade unions, the students unions, the Youth Federation, the League for the Defence of Womens rights, the Teachers' Association and the rest of the professional and social organisations — all of which have furnished evidence to the vitality of the people and the originality of their democratic consciousness. Relations of respect and cooperation between the official patriotic authority and the democratic organisations were established. The problems between the trade unions and the businessmen were solved in the spirit of negotiations and understanding despite the intricacies of these relations. The conduct of solidarity became evident among the students themselves and among the workers themselves and among every sector of these organisations. The peasants associations took the initiative to solve many of the problems and disputes in the spirit of cooperation and harmony and overcame many of the difficulties that existed for many years and were able to spread the spirit of cooperation in various fields for the achievement of the accomplishments necessitated by the Agrarian Reform.

All of that have impelled the enemies of the Republic to stand against the democratic liberties of the people and to fan the suspicion and alertness from those liberties. When they failed in that they resorted to various means of deliberate subversion, but they once again failed in preventing the people from exercising those liberties. Hence they resorted to extremely base means for instigating against democratic organisations by slandering their reputations and stands hoping to influence some quarters to abandon the democratic organisations. They raised the slogan of disbanding the democratic organisations or the interference in their electoral and internal affairs. But Premier Kassim gave them a strong slap in his speech to the conference of the Journalists Association, in which he said that he will not dissolve any organisation and he leaves it to the members of the organisations concerned to decide the continuance of their lead-

derships and executive committees. Such an affirmation is an obvious response to the democratic basis that rest upon the will of the people in deciding their stand towards their democratic organisations.

The depth of the democratic spirit among the Iraqi people which they have absorbed throughout several decades of heroic struggle against the extinct regime, cannot be suppressed by the black forces of reaction in spite of the heavy clouds which they have spread in the atmosphere in the attempt to extinguish the light of freedom which rose on the dawn of the 14th July.

While the Iraqi people are completing the final days of the transitional period, it should be said that they were able to defeat and bury many of the reactionary concepts. Those who want to make democracy as a medicine which is given in the form of small injections, could not find any popular quarter to accept these concepts.

Moreover, the determination of the patriotic Government to license the patriotic parties after the end of the transitional period has defeated those who are frightened of the formation of the parties and their functioning to their legitimate activities under the reign of the democratic system and the laws of the country. This determination came to confirm the legitimacy and correctness of the demands of the patriotic forces.

Those who spread fears and doubts about the correctness of the decision of the government to license the parties are either stooges of the anti-republican trend or are people who are unaware of the nature of party life in a democratic country. For the existence of the parties in a country where there are several social classes such as Iraq, is a necessity dictated by this very material reality.

The patriotic parties which represent the national classes of the people have no essential differences which cannot be solved among themselves. All of them can and must be one hand for safeguarding the Republic and promoting its revolutionary gains and in fighting imperialism, the first enemy which is lurking for chances to subvert our Republic.

The existence of several parties does not mean at all the necessity

that they dispute and enter into violent rivalries for parochial party interests as long as there are supreme interests which concern the existence of the Republic.

The opposite is true. The stability and natural development of the Republic without any shocks can only result from the peoples enjoyment to their full liberties by joining the parties each of which constitutes a part of a section of the interests of the entirety of the people. Therefore the calls which arise here and there calling for the deprivation of the intelligentsia — the state employees and the students — of the right to join parties does not serve the interests of the Republic in a country where the proportion of illiteracy is very high. All the democratic countries do not deprive these large strata of the right to join the patriotic parties. And if it was feared that the state employee or the student will inflict damages upon his other duties, then the laws of the country are bound to bring these who depart from them, back to their senses.

The Iraqi people who proved on all occasions that they are worthy of exercising their democratic liberties will also prove worthy of exercising the party life after the transitional period, and that will be, as it was in the past, a factor for the welfare and flourishing of the country.

The Stability and the Transitional period

24-12-1959

It is no secret that the forces of imperialism, the covetous circles and their agents abroad and at home are frightened by the consolidation of our democratic republican system and the inclination of the public life of our people towards stability and flourishing. They are also intensifying their cunning endeavours to exert pressure on our Republic and its patriotic government by slanders, intimidation, provocation and the spreading of rumours in the attempt to deprive the people of their confidence in the future of the republic and the possibility of its consolidation and stability. The series of conspiracies, the acts of subversion, the staging of clashes and disputes as took place in Kirkuk and others, the massing of troops on our Western and Eastern borders, the

smuggling of infiltrators and the refuge given to the traitors and fugitive conspirators are all undebatable evidence, that the enemies of the Republic at home and abroad are continuing with the path they pursued ever since the foundation of our Republic.

The announcement by Premier Kassim that the transitional period will be ended on the Army Day on the 6th of January, had a strong impact on the imperialists, the covetous and their reactionary agents. It threatened with the collapse their propaganda and falsehoods before Iraqi Arab and world public opinion. We shall reveal no secret to state that those circles and quarets are working now feverishly and through all means of intrigues, slanders and threats and the artificial creation of political crises both at home or in relations with neighbouring countries in a desperate attempt to maintain the present transitional period and to sabotage the efforts exerted by the patriotic government and the patriotic forces and the broad masses of the people to lay down the foundations of public life on healthy basis that enable the entirety of the people to exercise their democratic, social and human rights and liberties. In our opinion it is the duty of all the patriotic forces and elements who are sincere to the republic and keen to reinforce its democratic course to exert the maximum efforts they can with a spirit of cooperation and solidarity among themselves and with the patriotic authority to provide for the authority the best means and most secured ones for the transition towards the new era and to foil the endeavours of enemies which attempt to prevent this transition. There is no doubt that the patriotic forces and elements are responsible before the people and before history in the stands which they take and the activities they make in serving or not serving this great target.

On our part, we have struggled since the 14th of July and are still fighting to safeguard the Republic, to safeguard this ripe fruit which our people won after bitter struggle and heavy sacrifices. We have put and are still putting ourselves and all our abilities to serve this sacred duty in cooperation with all the patriotic forces and the patriotic authority.

We on our part have contributed, together with all the patriotic forces loyal to the republic, in the education of the masses with the spirit of solidarity with the patriotic authority and the spirit of patriotic cooperation and fraternity among the nationalities and the handling of all problems that arise after every liberalisation revolution which releases the forces of the people and their aspirations and which explode their hatred to imperialism, feudalism, treason and oppression.

The past period of our Republic, testifies to the good results of the stands of the working class towards her national duties and towards the expected problems and disputes with the businessmen. Many of the problems and disputes were solved through the friendly and constructive means thereby depriving on many occasions, the saboteurs and infiltrators of the chance to drag the workers into strikes.

This period also witnessed comparatively good results for the peasants who live and work under more difficult and complicated circumstances in view of the violent resistance made by the feudal elements and the quarters who are affected by the feudal influence and in view of the fact that the peasants are divided into many categories, the poor peasants, the middle and rich peasants and the small and middle landowners. All these factors render the settlement of the disputes in the countryside among these strata and their mobilisation and the unification of their efforts for the task of safeguarding the Republic and backing the patriotic authority for the accomplishment of the Agrarian reform and the increase of production an intricate task.

The loyal sons of the people, the students, youth and women and others displayed high vigilance towards the plotting activity. They have backed the patriotic authority in checking the dangers which menace our republic and in defending the gains of the Revolution.

In our opinion, the stubborn and triumphant struggle which was waged by our people against the enemies of the Republic was and still

is imposing a common duty on all the patriotic forces and elements which they should perform through solidarity, each in his own field and according to his own way. It is well known, for example, that one of the means of imperialism in fighting the recently liberated countries is the pressure and subversion in the economic sphere: in the fields of industry, trade and finance. We have witnessed on the morrow of the Revolution the subversive role which was played by the foreign banks and companies as well as the big capitalists who ceased their activity and smuggled their money abroad or froze them, and who spread rumours about the chaos in the Iraqi economy which had a negative effect among several quarters of merchants and businessmen. Such thing also took place in the sphere of construction works and in the agriculture. Naturally, the imperialists, the covetous and those who are enraged at the accomplishments of our revolution and its reforms that affected their selfish interests do not cease from placing the consequences of their subversive actions in economy on the responsibility of the Revolution, its new legislations and laws and on the popular masses. Here, some of the patriotic forces who can exercise their political and moral influence in the economic sphere can contribute their share in this sphere by establishing confidence and optimism in the future and by establishing the resolution to overcome the difficulties that usually arise after every revolution.

The raising of the slogan of stability and insisting on it will continue to be of no use unless the patriotic forces take the initiative to struggle, in solidarity with each other and each in its private sphere of influence to accomplish the conditions for stability by creating the basis where the legitimate interests of all national classes meet, and correspond with the line of the revolution.

The road towards stability, is the road of providing the conditions and circumstances that facilitate the task of the patriotic authority in the transition towards the new life. It requires from all the loyal patriotic forces and elements inside the patriotic government and outside it to fight patiently and persistently, each in his sphere, abilities and sp-

ecial means with close solidarity with the patriotic government in order to establish the favourable ground for ensuring the stability.

These tasks impose themselves urgently in this period in particular when the people are receiving with great hope the beginning of the new life which they expect will achieve for them their political and human rights.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Borders Disputes With Iran:

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lestine. "The Premier asserted that this is not wishful thinking", it is the only practical idea which we must support if we refrain from selfishness and greed and if we wanted to really help our brothers the people of Palestine. "The Premier pledged that the Iraqi Republic will strongly support this projected Palestinian government when it is established. The Premier also emphasised that the Iraqi Army have been getting more ready day after day to render them with assistance and aid".

The Premier then appealed to the doctors to help the poor and specify a day a week for treating the poor freely. The congress immediately responded by fixing Wednesday of every week for this purpose and this day was called the "Day of Medicine".

Victory for Democracy

Continued From Page 3

voted a majority for the democratic list.

Such is the result of the test. A victory for democracy. This is one of the battles, the lessons of which should be made use of in the coming ones. The unity of the national forces proved of supreme importance and the co-operation between the various patriotic political trends of the revolutionary forces, upon the points of agreements is still the first and foremost task facing the people in their endeavours to safeguard the republic and defend its democratic gains and secure its independence.

